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THE INDIANA MAGAZINE OF HISTORY

VOL. V

MARCH, 1909

No. 1

VINCENNES' FIRST CITY GOVERNMENT.

[The following document sent in from Vincennes by Mr. Logan Esarey is of interest not only as a record of one of the earliest town organizations in Indiana, but for several specific points. It illustrates fully the form of town organization and methods of business. Members of the Board of Trustees absent from meetings seem to have been rigorously fined in amounts varying from twenty-five cents to a dollar. It is interesting also to notice that regulations concerning negro slaves were matters of importance in Vincennes.—EDITOR.]

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE "BOROUGH OF VINCENNES" FROM AND AFTER 1ST MONDAY IN FEBRUARY, 1815.

1st Monday in February 1815.

A GREEABLY to a charter passed and approved 6th Sept. 1814 by the Legislature of Indiana, for incorporating the "Borough of Vincennes &c and in consequence of an advertisement appearing in the "Western Sun" for an election to take place at the Court-house on the above mentioned day to elect nine fit persons to act as trustees for twelve months in said Borough, the Citizens met as aforesaid, and appointed F. Graeter & Joseph Oneille to act as Judges and James G. Read & David Ruby to act as Clerks to Sd. Election. When after being duly sworn to swear &c proceeded to the election. When upon counting the ballots (the poles being closed at 4 O,Clock P. M.) the following persons were elected as follows—Jacob Kuykendall, John D. Hay, Samuel Thorn, Henry Ruble, Christian Graeter, Elias McNamee, Benj. I. Harrison, Mark Barnett & Wilson Lagow. & whereupon, each of the Sd. Trustees, recd. the following certificate.

We the undersigned, after being duly sworn, as Judges do certify that an Election held at the Court-house in the Borough of Vincennes, in Indiana Territory on the First Monday in February 1815, for the election of Trustees for said Borough agree-

able to an act of the Legislature of said Territory—apd. Sept. 6th 1814. The following Trustees were duly elected.

Wilson Lagow	Henry Ruble
Jacob Kuykendall	C. Graeter
J. D. Hay	Elias McNamee
Saml. Thorn	Benj. I. Harrison
Mark Barnette	

Jsh. Oneille	} Judges of the Election.
F. Graeter	

A Copy Test.

James G. Read	} Clerks
David Ruby	

The original of the foregoing is now filed in the hands of the clerk—as also a state of the poles, it being unnecessary to give them a place in this Journal they are now ready for inspection—and also the Charter.

Vincennes I. T. Feby. 8th 1815.

A meeting of the Trustees (Wilson Lagow, excepted, he being absent) was this day attended by eight when the following Oath was administered

“You and each of you, do swear or affirm that you will diligently and faithfully discharge the duties of Trustees of the “Borough of Vincennes” according to the best of your understanding, so help you God.”

They then proceeded to business, Benj. I. Harrison was unanimously elected as Clerk to the board for the ensuing twelve months, and Jno. D. Hay was appointed to act as Chairman—Pro-tem, who was requested to take the Chair.

The Clerk (by request) of the Chairman, read the laws of the Corporation.

A motion was made & seconded that a Committee of Jacob Kuykendall, Christian Graeter, Benj. I. Harrison, E. McNamee, & Saml. Thorn be and they are hereby appointed, to draught Bye-laws, rules & regulations for the good government of this Town.

It was moved & seconded, that Jno. D. Hay is also to be one of the Committee.

A motion was made & seconded, that a Committee of Benj. I. Harrison & Henry Ruble be and are hereby appointed to draught Bye-laws, &c for the mode of transacting business by this board, & have it ready for next meeting.

A Committee of Benj. I. Harrison and Christian Graeter were appointed to draught a subscription, for the purpose of raising funds for the purchase of ground to build a MARKET HOUSE on, and should said Committee get Two Hundred & fifty Dollars (or more) subscribed they are hereby empowered to purchase of Pierre Boneau & wife the Lot of ground opposite Christian Graeter's at Five Hundred Dollars, for the use of the Corporation—and make report at the next stated meeting.

This meeting is adjourned until Saturday 11th next at 3 O,C. P. M.

B. I. HARRISON, Secretary. JNO. D. HAY, Chairman pro-tem.

Vincennes I. T. Feby. 11th 1815.

The board of trustees met according to adjournment.

The Committee of Benj. I. Harrison & Henry Ruble, made a report, as respects the Bye-laws of this Board, which were read and adopted as corrected.

A motion was made & seconded that the sum of two Dollars be allowed to Benj. I. Harrison for Books purchased for this Board; and he is hereby allowed the sum of Fifty cents for each meeting of the Trustees, for acting as Clerk.

It was moved & seconded that as Benja. I. Harrison & Christian Graeter had raised upward of \$250. by subscription they are hereby empowered by this board, to enter into writings with Pierre Boneau for the purchase of his Lot opposite Graeter's at the price agreed upon \$500. and make report at the next meeting. And that Jacob Kuykendall is appointed also to be one of this Committee.

This meeting is adjourned.

B. I. HARRISON, Secty.

JNO. D. HAY Chm. pro-tem.

Vincennes March 27th 1815.

The Board of Trustees for the borough of Vincennes met at the request of the Chairman pro-tem, when present J. D. Hay

Chm. pro-tem, J. Kuykendall, E. McNamee, H. Ruble, Saml. Thorn, C. Graeter, B. I. Harrison Clk.

The board then proceeded to the Election of a Chairman, when Frederick Graeter Esqr. was declared unanimously elected.

He was then conducted to the chair there being no officer to be found to administer the Oath of Office, the Board adjourned to meet on Wednesday next at 9 O,Clock A. M.

B. I. HARRISON Clerk

F. GRAETER Chm.

Vincennes March 29th "15

The Board of Trustees for the borough of Vincennes met according to adjournment, when present Fredk. Graeter Esq. Chm., Jacob Kuykendall, Jno. D. Hay, Mark Barnett, C. Graeter, E. McNamee, B. I. Harrison Clerk.

That as Mr. Chairman had been sworn in, it was moved and seconded that the Oath be recorded—as follows.

"Indiana Territory

"Knox County

"Be it remembered that on the 28th day of March, 1815 I administered to Mr. Frederick Graeter the Oath of chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Town of Vincennes—In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and date above written

E. STOUT J. P. K. C. Seal.

It was moved and seconded that a committee of Jacob Kuykendall, J. D. Hay E. McNamee be and are hereby appointed to examine the situation of the Town Lots, &c and make report at the next meeting of this Board.

The object of the above motion is to have each and every one of sd. Town-Lots numbered, beginning at the upper or the lower end of said Town.

A motion was made & seconded that a committee of B. I. Harrison be appointed to write to Louisville for a Copy of the Bye-Laws of that place and make report at the next meeting of this Board.

Henry I. Mills was elected as Town Constable, by this Board for this term in office, viz. (until next February).

This board is now adjourned.

B. I. HARRISON Clerk

FREDK. GRAETER Chairman.

Vincennes I. T. May 3rd 1815.

The board of Trustees for the borough of Vincennes met this day, when present. Fredk. Graeter Esqr. Chm., Jacob Kuykendall, Jno. D. Hay, Christian Graeter, E. McNamee, Wilson Lago, Saml. Thorn, Henry Ruble, M. Barnett & B. I. Harrison Clk.

Wilson Lago being sworn in according to Law this day took his seat as one of this board.

The Committee appointed at the last meeting of this board of J. Kuykendall, J. D. Hay & E. McNamee made a report in part and are allowed a longer time to finish their undertaking.

The Committee of B. I. Harrison as also appointed at the last meeting made a report which was satisfactory.

It is ordered that a Committee of E. McNamee be appointed to draught the following bye laws and make report at the next meeting of this board viz.

A law imposing a tax on lots & other property within the borough of this Town, also, a law for the imposing of a Tax or fine on all free persons for drunkenness, running Horses, in the streets and other improper conduct. And also, a law for the punishment of negroes & servants for improper conduct. Lastly, a law imposing fines on owners or holders of Lots for suffering Nuisances to remain before their Lots to the injury of the Citizens.

Ordered, that Jno. D. Hay be and is considered as another of this Committee to the second Law.

Ordered, that the above Committee as soon as said Laws are drafted do call on the Chairman of this board & with him appoint an extra meeting and give notice thereof to the rest of the board.

Ordered, that a Committee of Saml. Thorn & Jno. D. Hay be appointed to contract for materials for the purpose of building a market house, of the following dimensions 16 by 48 feet, one story high, the pillars of Brick at equal distances of 8 ft. and to be covered with cypress shingles, & report of the expense to the next or future meeting of the Materials.

This meeting is now adjourned.

B. I. HARRISON Secty.

FREDK. GRAETER Chairman.

Vincennes May 13th 1815.

The Trustees for the "borough of Vincennes" met this day, when present, Fredk. Graeter, esqr. Chm., Henry Ruble, Mark Barnett, J. Kuykendall, C. Graeter, Saml. Thorn & B. I. Harrison Clk.

It is moved and seconded that as this meeting was called for the express purpose of attending to the Committee of E. McNamee & Jno. D. Hay (appointed at the last meeting) one of which being indisposed it is adjourned until Monday next at 9 O'Clock.

B. I. HARRISON Clerk

F. GRAETER Chairman.

The Board of Trustees for the Borough of Vincennes met this day according to adjournment being Monday 15th May 1815. when present Fredk. Graeter esqr. Chm., Jno. D. Hay, C. McNamee, C. Graeter, Wilson Lago, Henry Ruble, Saml. Thorn, Mark Barnett & B. I. Harrison Clk.

The Committee of E. McNamee appointed for the purpose of making laws, &c, do make the following report, which were passed after some amendments.

ORDINANCE, N. IV.

FOR LEVYING AND COLLECTING TAXES WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF VINCENNES.

Sec. 1st. Be it ordained by the Trustees of the Borough of Vincennes in Council assembled and it is hereby ordained that a Tax of one and a half per cent, per annum, be laid on the valuation of each and every lot, half and other less parts of Lots, within the same.

2nd. Be it further ordained That the valuation of lots shall be made and ascertained as herein after prescribed.

The assessor shall immediately after the first day of June and shall thereafter annually proceed to number the Town Lots on a general plat of the same, beginning on the River Wabash adjoining the Church Lands, and making two fair lists of the number of Lots and their owners names as far as it can be ascertained—one of which lists shall be deposited with the Clerk of the Board, and the other for his own use as collector.

3rd. And be it further ordained that

All Lots, the owners of which do not reside in this borough of Vincennes, as well as all those lots, whose owners are unknown, shall be marked and designated, as the lots of non-residents, and shall be subject to the same rates of Taxation, as the lots of resident Citizens of Vincennes, and the assessor shall to the best of his judgment, set down the valuation of each Lot opposite the owners name, where this can be ascertained, and where it cannot opposite to the number of such Lot. And be it further ordained that it shall be the duty of the assessor when assessing the Town Lots, to take a correct list of the names of all free male inhabitants, Twenty one years old and upwards, residing in the borough, and the Collector shall collect from each and every one of said inhabitants an head Tax of Fifty cents.

Sec. 4. And be it further ordained that

The Town Collector shall on the 1st day of July 1815 annually hereafter begin to demand and collect the aforesaid Taxes— And, if any Lot-Holder or Renter of a Lot, refuse or neglect to pay the amount of his, her or their taxes so demanded, the Collector shall proceed to levy an execution on the goods and chattels of the person so neglecting or refusing, and advertise said goods and chattels, in three of the most public places for twenty days previous to the sale thereof.—

5th. And be it further ordained, that,

Where no personal property can be found whereon to levy for said taxes, it shall be the duty of the Collector, to levy and collect the Tax so in arrears by sale, at the Court House in said borough of the Lot or Lots, for which the Tax shall be in arrear, or so much thereof, as will bring the tax due thereon, to be laid out in the form of a square or Parallelogram in some corner of said lot, to be designated by the Collector at the time of sale.

6th And further ordained be it, that it shall be the duty of the Collector, to give notice of the time & place of the sale of Lots, for the Non-payment of the Taxes due thereon by advertising the same for Twenty days previous to the sale, in some public Newspaper printed in the borough, if one should be printed therein at the time, and if not by Manuscript advertisements, at three of the most public places in the Borough.

7th And be it further ordained that it shall be the duty of the Collector, to give notice to one of the Justices, assigned to keep the peace in the said borough, to attend the sale of Lots for the Non-payment of Taxes and it shall be the duty of said Justices, to superintend said sales and prevent any fraud or collusion in the same. And the said Justices shall receive One Dollar and fifty cents for each days attendance, to be levied on the Lots sold.

And be it further ordained that

No Collector shall directly or indirectly purchase any Lots sold by him for Taxes due thereon, under the penalty of One Hundred Dollars, to be recovered for the use of the Borough— And the Collector shall within Ten days after the sale of any Lot or Lots make returns thereof to the Clerk of the Board who shall record the same in which return the Collector shall particularly state the Lot or Lots sold, and to whom, with the numbers of sd. Lots and the owners names, and that of the Justice who attended, and the expense of the sale.

Sec. 8 And be it further ordained, That it shall be the duty of the Collector, to give the purchaser a Deed for any Lots by him sold for the Non-payment of Taxes, which Deed shall be witnessed by the Justice attending such sales, and shall be made out in the names and form prescribed by the law of this Territory, in such cases made and provided.

9th And, be it further ordained, That in cases where the name of the Owner or Owners of Lots, cannot be ascertained, it shall be lawful for the assessor to assess the Lots without prefixing the owners names, but, he shall clearly designate the number of such Lots, and the street or streets by which each Lots are bounded, and the Collector shall in like manner when making his Deed to the purchasers, designate and describe the Lot, by giving the owner's name if it can be ascertained—and if otherwise, its number in the general platte of the Town with the street or streets by which it is bounded.—

And be it further ordained that, in all cases of the sale of Lots, or part of Lots for the Non-payment of Taxes due thereon to the Borough, all the Title which any person or persons had, or could have to said Lots or parts of Lots at the time of such sale, shall

be absolutely transferred to the purchaser by the Deed of the Collector, subject however, to be redeemed within One year after the sd. sale, agreeably to an act of the Territorial—Legislature “Entitled, an act to allow owners of Town Lots, to redeem the “same when they shall be sold for Taxes—And be it further ordained, that Any person wanting to redeem any Lot sold for Taxes shall pay the purchaser, the amount of the Tax and Costs together with one hundred p. Centum thereon; and shall have such redemption entered on the Books of the Board, by the Clerk of the same, which shall be a release of all claim of the purchaser.

10th And, be it further ordained, That the Collector shall be bound to pay over to the Treasurer, once every week— all monies by him received or collected for the Borough.

And be it further ordained that the fees afterwards to be allowed to him by the board shall be the same as are allowed by the Laws of this Territory to the County-Sheriff or Collector for the collection of Taxes—And, the Fees of the Assessor shall be the same as are allowed by Laws of the Territory to County or Township—Assessors or Listers.

11th And be it further ordained, that The Assessors and Collectors shall take the following Oaths previous to entering on the Duties of their respective offices—To wit.

ASSESSORS OATH

I A. B. do solemnly swear that I will truly & without partiality or prejudice, to the best of my abilities estimate and assess the value of all the Lots in the borough of Vincennes—and, that I will faithfully discharge all of the duties prescribed to me as assessor, by the ordinance of the Board of Trustees—So help me GOD.

COLLECTOR'S OATH.

I A. B. do solemnly swear that I will faithfully discharge all the duties enjoined on me as collector, by the ordinance for levying & collecting Taxes to the best of my knowledge and abilities—So help me GOD.

N. III. ORDINANCE, RESPECTING NUISANCES.

SEC 1st BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TRUSTEES OF THE BOROUGH OF VINCENNES, and it is hereby ordained that a fine not exceeding Five Dollars nor less than three be imposed on any person or persons who shall, cast any dead carcass, garbage, nauseous liquors or other offensive matter on any street, lane, or alley, or on any Lot within the limits of this Borough, or so near thereto as to annoy the inhabitants in the neighborhood thereof.

Sec. II And be it further ordained, That if any person shall place any barrels, boxes, Crates, any firewood, or timber of any kind, any Brick, stone or earth in the streets so as to obstruct the free passage thereof, and suffer the same so to remain for 10 hours, every person or persons so offending shall pay for every such offence the sum of two dollars.

Sec. 3 And be it further ordained, that it shall be the duty of the street Commissioners to remove, or cause to be removed all nuisances from the streets, it shall be their duty to give such persons so causing the nuisance, or person or persons owning such Lot or Lots whereon such nuisance may be found or facing the streets where such nuisance or Obstruction may have been thrown. notice to remove the same: and if the person so notified shall neglect or refuse to remove or cause to be removed such nuisance or obstruction in 24 hours after such notice then the street Commissioners shall direct the Town Constable to have the same removed at the expense of the person, or persons neglecting, or refusing, which expense and costs of suit, shall be reasonable before any Justice of the peace in said Borough.

AN ORDINANCE RESPECTING FINE AND PROSECUTION.

And be it ordained by the trustees of the borough of Vincennes in Council assembled & it has hereby ordained That it shall in all cases, be the duty of any officer, or other person prosecuting or informing against any person for Offences committed against any of the ordinances of this Borough to do the same within ten days after the Commission of such Offence or Offences.—

Sec. 7 And be it further ordained, That in all cases where fines are assessed, and the person, or persons fined shall neglect

or refuse to pay such forfeitures, or goods and chattels whereon to levy the same by distress, cannot be found such person or persons shall be committed to the county jail until they pay or give satisfactory security to pay the same.

This ordinance to have effect from & after the passage thereof.

FR. GRAETER Chm. B. T.

B. I. HARRISON C. B. T.

NO. I.

ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEGAL PROMULGATION OF THE ORDINANCES PASSED BY THE TRUSTEES OF THE BOROUGH OF VINCENNES.

Sec. I Be it ordained and enacted, by the Trustees in Council assembled, of the Borough of Vincennes. "That it shall hereafter be the duty of the Town Clerk after the passage of any ordinance to cause copies of the same to be put up at three of the most public places of the said Borough, and immediately after putting up the three said Copies of the ordinances, to make out an affidavit stating that he had discharged that duty agreeably to the provisions of the sixth Section of the Act of Assembly of this Territory, entitled "An Act to incorporate the Borough of Vincennes passed the 6th September 1814—a Copy of which affidavit shall be deposited with and filed by the Officer administering the Oath, and another copy placed on the minutes of the proceedings of the Council, which said affidavit so as aforesaid filed, shall be held and taken to be at all times as full and sufficient evidence of the promulgation of the ordinances of the corporation of the Borough of Vincennes agreeably to the provisions of the before recited act.

This ordinance to take effect upon and after the passage thereof.

FR. GRAETER Chm. B. T.

B. I. HARRISON Clk.

NO. II

ORDINANCE REGULATING SERVANTS AND PEOPLE OF COLOR.

Sec. 1 Be it ordained by the Trustees of the Borough of Vincennes in Council assembled, and it is hereby ordained—That If any slave or servant, shall be found within the Borough (whose Master employer or owner, lives out of the bounds of this Cor-

poration) without a pass, or some letter or token whereby it may appear, that he or she is proceeding by authority from his or her Master employer or owner, it shall and may be lawfull for any person to apprehend and carry him or her before a Justice of the peace to be by his order punished with stripes not exceeding 35.

Sec. 2 And be it further ordained—That all Riots, routs, unlawful assemblies, and seditious speeches by any slave or slaves, servant or servants, or free people of color, within the bounds of this borough shall be punished with stripes at the discretion of a Justice of the peace.

This ordinance to have effect from and after the passage thereof.

Attest B. I. HARRISON Clk FR. GRAETER Chm. B. T.
Adjourned until 2 OClock P. M.

NO. V.

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE to prevent riots in the streets or in public houses and prohibiting the galloping of horses &c.

Sec. 1. Be it ordained by the Trustees of the Borough of Vincennes in Council assembled, and it is hereby ordained, That if any person of the age of sixteen years and upwards, shall be found in the streets or in any public house of entertainment within this Borough, Intoxicated and making or exciting any noise contention or disturbance, it shall be lawful for any Justice of the peace on complaint or view thereof to cause such person, or persons to pay a fine of Two dollars with costs of prosecution for every such offence.

Sec. 2. And be it further ordained, That if any person or persons shall gallop, any Horse, Mare or gelding in any street within this Borough, every person so offending, shall on conviction thereof before any Justice of the peace forfeit and pay the sum of Five dollars with costs. The above ordinance to have effect from and after the passage thereof.

Enacted into an ordinance 15 May 1815.

FR. GRAETER Chm. B. T.
B. I. HARRISON Clk.

Vincennes May 31 1815.

The Trustees for the Borough of Vincennes met this day at 2 O,Clock, P. M. when present Frederick Graeter Chairman, B. I. Harrison Clerk, E. McNamee, Ch. Graeter, H. Ruble, J. D. Hay, W. Lago, S. Thorn, Mark Barnett.

Henry I. Mills being this day sworn in the Office of Town Constable for the Borough of Vincennes agreeable to Law, ordered that it be entered on the books of said Borough.

Ordered that the Clerk of this board do make the following alterations, or amendments to the following Sections

John Bruner and John Bailey having been sworn in according to Law as street Commissioners, ordered that it be entered upon the books of the Trustees of the Borough.

Ordered, That Christian Graeter be considered as another of the Committee with Saml. Thorn and John D. Hay (as appointed at a former meeting) to furnish materials for the Market House, and to have them ready by the 15th June next.

Ordered, That Ch. Graeter be appointed as a Committee to have the fences of Doct. Kuykendall and Geo. Wallace removed for the market square, to be built upon, which ground was given by said Gentlemen for the use of said market square, and to be removed before the 15th June next.

It is moved and seconded that E. McNamee and B. I. Harrison be appointed as a Committee to have the Corporation Laws &c printed.

This meeting is now adjourned.

B. I. HARRISON Clk.

Borough of Vincennes June 19th 1815.

The board of Trustees met, with present Frederick Graeter, Chairman, Wilson Lago, M. Barnett, S. Thorn, E. McNamee, H. Ruble, C. Graeter, and J. D. Hay.

Ordered, that J. D. Hay be appointed as Clerk pro Tem.

On motion ordered, That E. McNamee and Fredk. Graeter Esqr. be a Committee to revise and amend the ordinances respecting Sabbath breaking and Taxation, and that they report to the next meeting, and that the said Committee report any amendments which to them may appear necessary in the ordinances generally.

Ordered that Joseph Oneille be appointed as Assessor for the Borough of Vincennes, and that he shall take an oath faithfully to discharge the duties of said Office according to the ordinance of the board of Trustees.

Adjourned until Friday morning next at 9 O,Clock.

B. I. HARRISON Clerk

F. GRAETER Chm.

Vincennes June 23rd 1815.

The Trustees for the Borough of Vincennes met this day, when present Fredk. Graeter, Chairman, B. I. Harrison, J. D. Hay, Ch. Graeter, E. McNamee, H. Ruble, W. Lagow.

It is moved and seconded that as Mr. Chairman was appointed at the last meeting as one of a Committee, that Wilson Lago take the chair.

The Committee of E. McNamee and F. Graeter Esqr. as appointed at the last meeting made the following reports respecting amendments, alterations, repealing &c of the ordinances passed by this board as follows,

It is ordered that E. McNamee and F. Graeter is considered as being continued as a committee already appointed for at the last meeting.

Resolved that B. I. Harrison and H. Ruble as a Committee authorised to borrow a sum not exceeding \$400. on the credit of the Borough of Vincennes and that the Trustees do bind themselves and their Successors in Office to repay such sums, so borrowed within twelve months thereafter, or, so much sooner as funds come into their hands.

NO. VII

AN ORDINANCE to prevent the storing of Gunpowder, and of shooting any fire Arms within the limits of the Borough Vincennes.

WHEREAS, the keeping of large quantities of gunpowder in Stores and private houses within the limits of this Borough, is pregnant with the most calamitous consequences to the lives and property of its inhabitants whom an accidental fire may plunge at once into irretrievable ruin, And whereas such imprudent and inhuman, if not criminal practice, hitherto unrestrained, ought to

be effectually checked before the misfortunes it is calculated to produce may take place.

THEREFORE,

Sec. 1. Be it ordained and enacted by the Trustees of the Borough of Vincennes in Council Assembled, and it is hereby ordained That a fine not exceeding Twenty dollars nor less than Ten dollars with costs of prosecution, be imposed on any person, who shall keep in any house, shop, cellar, Store or other place any greater quantity of Gunpowder than Twenty pounds.

Sec. 2. And be it further ordained That a fine of Five dollars with costs of prosecution be imposed on any person who shall at any time discharge any fire Arms within the limits of this Borough.

Sec. 3. And be it further ordained, That this ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after the passage thereof

FR. GRAETER Chm. B. T.

NO. IX

AN ORDINANCE respecting the warrant of the Justice of the peace to be issued against offenders of the ordinances of the Trustees of this Borough, and to regulate the amount of fees Chargeable by the said Officers.

Sec. 1 Be it ordained and enacted by the Trustees of the Borough of Vincennes in Council Assembled, and it is hereby ordained That, the following form of warranty, shall be used by the Justice of the peace.

KNOX COUNTY SCT.

The Trustees of the Borough of Vincennes in said County, To the Town Constable of the same, GREETING.

WHEREAS Complaint hath been made before me the Subscriber one of the justices of the peace, in and of the said County, upon the oath of A. B. of ——— as the case may be ——— that C. D. did on the ——— (stating the Offence) contrary to the ordinances of the said Trustees, THESE are therefore in the name of the said Trustees, to will and require you to give notice to the above C. D. to appear before me tomorrow by 10 O,Clock (or

forthwith to answer the above complaint, and to be further dealt withal, according to Law.

Given under my hand this —— day of —— A. D.

Sec. 2. And be it further Ordained That, the fees to be charged by the Justice of the peace, so acting in the name of the said Trustees, shall be the same as are, or may be at any future time established by law, to be chargeable by the said Justices of the peace within this Territory; and that the Constable shall be entitled to the same fees as are, or may be allowed by law to Constables within the same.

Sec. 4. And be it further ordained THAT, this ordinance shall take effect, and be in force from and after the passage thereof.

FR. GRAETER Chm. B. T.

Attest B. I. HARRISON Clk.

Vincennes I. T. June 30th 1815.

The Trustees for the "Borough of Vincennes" met this day, when present Fredk. Graeter Esqr., E. McNamee, C. Graeter, J. D. Hay, Saml. Thorn, Henry Ruble, Wilson Lago, & B. I. Harrison Clk.

B. I. Harrison as one of the Committee appointed at the last meeting, for the purpose of raising a loan of \$400 for the building of a Market-house by subscription, reported he had nearly raised that amt.

Ordered that M. Barnett be fined Fifty cents for his non attendance at the last meeting of this Board, according to the Bye-laws.

Ordered that Seneca Almy be appointed as an additional Town Constable for this Board.

B. I. Harrison resigned his office as clerk to this Board, which was accepted.

Homer Johnston was then elected in his stead, to fill the vacancy.

Resolved that the following additional rule be made to the Bye-laws for the Government of this Board.

That the Board hereafter will receive no communication from any Citizen or Citizens, person or persons unless the same is committed to writing.

This meeting is now adjourned until Friday next, 7th July and meet every Friday following, until ordered otherwise, at 9 O. C. in the morning.

B. I. HARRISON Clerk

F. GRAETER Chairman.

Friday July 14th, 1815.

The Trustees for the Borough of Vincennes met this day, when present Fredk. Graeter Esqr. Chm., Wilson Lago, C. Graeter, Saml. Thorn, Henry Ruble, B. I. Harrison, Clk.

Ordered that Mark Barnett, be fined the sum of one Dollar, for his non attendance at the last meeting.

There appearing no farther business before the Board, it is now adjourned until Friday next at 9 O,Clock.

B. I. HARRISON Clk.

F. GRAETER Chm.

Vincennes I. T. July 28th 1815.

The Trustees for the Borough of Vincennes met this day, when present Fredk. Graeter esqr. Chm., Wilson Lago, C. Graeter, H. Ruble, S. Thorn, E. McNamee, B. I. Harrison Clk.

It is ordered that B. I. Harrison be appointed as Treasurer to this Board for their time in office, and that he gives the necessary security according to Law.

Ordered that Doct. Kuykendall be considered as another added to the committee for attending to the building of the Market-house.

Resolved that all committees appointed by this board whose duty it has been or may be to contract debts on behalf & for the use of said shall present to the board the accounts of the persons with whom they have contracted in order that such accts. may be adjusted by the sd. board in sessions.

Ordered E. McNamee & Fredk. Graeter be a Committee to draught Laws for the Market-house and make report at a future meeting.

Resolved that the Treasurer of the board of Trustees of this Borough be & he is hereby required to pay out of any monies in his hands belonging to the Borough of Vincennes any account or order passed in the Board of Trustees & signed by the Chairman of the same & he is in no other case to pay out any money for or belonging to said Borough.

Resolved further, that it shall be his duty to keep a fair account of all monies by him recd. for sd. Borough as well as all monies due to or from sd. Borough—& that he be obliged to render an acct. of sd. monies when required thereto.

Ordered that E. McNamee be fined the sum of fifty cents, for his non attendance at the last meeting.

This meeting is now adjourned until friday next at 9 O. C.

B. I. HARRISON Clk.

F. GRAETER Chm.

Vincennes I. T. August 4th, 1815

The Trustees for the Borough of Vincennes met this dat, when present Fredk. Graeter esq. Chm., Elias McNamee, Saml. Thorn, C. Graeter, Henry Ruble, Mark. Barnett, J. Kuykendall, B. I. Harrison Clk.

Fredk. Graeter esqr. having been appointed at the last meeting one of a committee and wishing to make report in part, resigned his Chair until that business was finished, therefore ordered, that J. Kuykendall take the chair as Chairman pro-tem.

Ordered that Mark Barnett be a committee to arrange with Will Lindsay the acct. presented to this board for brick-work done to the Market-house by sd. Lindsay and make a report at the next meeting.

as the Treasurer reported that he had collected from the different persons a loan subscribed by them for the purpose of Building the Market-house, therefore, Ordered That the following accts. do pass this board and the Treasurer be instructed to pay them

To Benja. Beckes (for brick).....	\$40.00
“ Will Millikan (hauling same).....	6.25
“ Will Hendrix (one day's work).....	.75
“ Thos. Bennett hauling 2400 brick.....	12.00
“ Jas. White ditto 2400 do.....	12.00
“ C. Graeter hauling 6 loads sand.....	.75
“ Saml. Thorn sundries	2.37½
“ Charles McClure counting brick.....	1.50

Amtg. to\$75.62½

Ordered that as Seneca Almy was elected by this Board as Town Constable some meetings since & having taken the necessary oath that it be admitted to record as follows—

INDIANA TERRITORY

BOROUGH OF VINCENNES

Be it known that on this day the 30th June 1815 I administered to Seneca Almy the oath of Town Constable of the board of Trustees for the borough of Vincennes conformably to order. In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my seal the day and year above written.

To the Clerk B. I. Harrison

F. GRAETER J. P. K. C.

esqr. of the Board of Trustees—Vincennes.

Ordered still farther, That as Benja. I. Harrison resigned his place one or two meetings since as Clerk to this board, and Homer Johnston elected in his stead, and he having refused to accept of sd. appointment, it is considered that sd. Harrison do keep the Clerkship, as it was understood so at the time of his resignation.

This meeting is now adjourned until Friday next at 9 O'C.

B. I. HARRISON Clk

F. GRAETER Chm.

Vincennes I. T. Aug. 11th 1815.

The Trustees for the Borough of Vincennes met this day when present F. Graeter esqr. Chm., M. Barnett, S. Thorn, C. Graeter, H. Ruble, B. I. Harrison Clk.

The Committee of M. Barnett appointed at the last meeting of the Board, to arrange with Will Lindsay the amt. and inquire into his work done to the Market-house, reported that Mr. Lindsay would agree that he had put up about 6900 brick for which he would take \$30 but not less.

Ordered, that Wilson Lago be fined the sum of one Dollar, for his non attendance at the last meeting of this Board.

Ordered that as B. I. Harrison had been elected as Treasurer of this Board for their time in office and having given bond with E. McNamee as security for his good performance & taken the necessary Oath, that it be admitted to record, as follows,

"Know all men by these presents, that we B. I. Harrison and "Elias McNamee, both of Vincennes of the County of Knox and "Indiana Territory, are held and firmly bound unto the board of "Trustees of the borough of Vincennes & county aforesaid, in "the just & full sum of Five Hundred Dollars, of good and law- "ful money of the United States, to be paid to the said Board of "Trustees as aforesaid, or their successors in office; for which "payment to be well and truly made we bind ourselves and each "of us by himself for and in the whole, our heirs, Executors, and "administrators and each, jointly & severally firmly by these "presents—sealed with our seals, and dated at Vincennes, this "Ninth day of August in the year of OUR LORD, one thousand "eight hundred and fifteen.

The condition of the above obligation is such, that, whereas the above bounden B. I. Harrison has this day been appointed by the aforesaid Board of Trustees, a Treasurer of the Treasury of the Borough of Vincennes in said County — Now, if the said B. I. Harrison shall and does well and truly execute and discharge the duties of his office, enjoined upon him by the sd. Board of Trustees, as such Treasurer, then the foregoing obligation to be void, or else, to remain in full force and virtue—

Sealed and delivered in presence of F. Graeter.

B. I. HARRISON Seal

E. McNAMEE Seal

Indiana Territory Knox County

Be it known that on the ninth day of August one thousand eight hundred & fifteen, I administered to B. I. Harrison, the oath of Treasurer of the Board of Trustees for the Borough of Vincennes—In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand & seal, the day and year above written.

F. GRAETER J. P. K. C.

This meeting is now adjourned until Friday next at 9 O,C.

B. I. HARRISON Clk

F. GRAETER Chm.

Vincennes I. T. Augt. 18th 1815.

The Trustees for the Borough of Vincennes met this day, when present, F. Graeter esqr. Chm., E. McNamee, H. Ruble, M. Barnett, C. Graeter, W. Lago, J. Kuykendall, B. I. Harrison Clk.

Ordered that the acct. as presented to this Board in favor of Will Lindsay for Brick work done to the Market-house of Thirty dollars, be rejected and in lieu thereof, the Treasurer is ordered to pay him Twenty five Dollars, out of the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Ordered that the committee respecting the Market-house, do give the necessary instructions for the building and completing sd. House.

This meeting is now adjourned until Friday next at 9 O. C. in the morning.

B. I. HARRISON Clk

F. GRAETER Chm.

Friday, Augt. 25th 1815

The Trustees of the "Borough of Vincennes" met this day when present Wilson Lago Chm. pro-tem, C. Graeter, J. Kuykendall, Saml. Thorn, B. I. Harrison Clk.

It is ordered that the meeting of every Friday be dispensed with, until further orders.

This meeting is now adjourned.

B. I. HARRISON Clk.

F. GRAETER Chm.

Vincennes I. T. Nov. 27th 1815

The Trustees of the "Borough of Vincennes" met this day when present Fredk. Graeter esqr. Chm., Jno. D. Hay, C. Graeter, H. Ruble, S. Thorn, M. Barnett, E. McNamee, B. I. Harrison Clk.

Two Petitions which were addressed to the Legislature of the Territory were read by the Clerk, one of which were to be signed by the members of this board & the other by Citizens of the Borough, each of which passed & a Committee of Jno. D. Hay & C. Graeter were appointed to hand the one for the Citizens to sign.

It was ordered that M. Barnett be fined Twenty five cents for non attendance at the last meeting of this Board.

It is ordered that the Committee appointed to the building & of the Market-house do take particular care of all remaining materials and make sale of them.

This meeting is now adjourned until the last monday in Dec. next.

F. GRAETER, Chm.

Vincennes I. T. Jany. 17th 1816

The Trustees of the Borough of Vincennes met this day when present Fredk. Graeter Esqr. Chm., E. McNamee, S. Thorn, C. Graeter, B. I. Harrison Clk.

It was moved and seconded that Wilson Lago be fined the sum of One Dollar for his non attendance at the last meeting of this Board.

After due consideration, the Board made the following resolution, "resolved unanimously that a Memorial which has been first & secondly read (directed to Congress praying for the disposal of the Common & Title Lots in the Borough) be immediately enclosed and sent on to Congress for their consideration & Disposal.

There appearing no farther business before the Board, it is ordered that this meeting is now adjourned until Saturday next at 6 O,Clock.

B. I. HARRISON, Clk.

F. GRAETER, Chm.

Vincennes I. T. Jany. 22nd 1816

The Trustees of the Borough of Vincennes met this day, when present Fredk. Graeter Esqr. Chm., E. McNamee, J. Kuykendall, C. Graeter, B. I. Harrison Clk.

It is moved and seconded that Wilson Lago, be fined one Dollar for his non attendance at the last meeting of this Board.

It is ordered that the Clerk of this Board do cause to be stuck up three copies of advertisements (one in each ward) for the purpose of having an Election of Nine Trustees, to take place 1st Monday in February next, and to have also a Copy of the same inserted in the Western Sun of this Town.

This meeting is now adjourned.

B. I. HARRISON Clk.

F. GRAETER, Chm.

Vincennes I. T. Feby. 3rd 1816

The Trustees of the "Borough of Vincennes" met this day when present Fredk. Graeter esqr. Chm., C. Graeter, Saml. Thorn, Henry Ruble, J. Kuykendall, J. D. Hay, M. Barnett, Wilson Lago, B. I. Harrison Clk.

It is ordered, that one of the fines as appears on record against

Wilson Lago for non attendance at this Board, be remitted, and that a credit be entered to his acct. accordingly for the amt. say one Dollar.

It is ordered that the following accounts be allowed, and be paid out of the first monies collected, not otherwise appropriated

No. 1	John D. Hay (this is not due until Augt. next) ..	\$76.62½
" 2	Jacob Kuykendall (for lime & plank)	11.05
" 3	Jack McClure (for plank)	25.00
" 4	James McClure (for work done)	38.59
" 5	Saml. Emmerson (for timber)	46.38
" 6	B. I. Harrison (as Clerk)	37.93¾
" 7	" " same (as Treasurer)	29.96¼
" 8	Jno. B. Driemen (for scantling)	43.28
" 9	Christian Graeter (Candles &c)	3.50
" 10	Will L. Coleman (Nails)	1.87½

This meeting is now adjourned.

B. I. HARRISON Clerk.

F. GRAETER Chm.

Vincennes Feby. 15th 1816

Agreeably to Notices Received by the members, from the Judges of an Election held at the Court House in the Borough—on Monday the 5th Inst. for the purpose of Electing Nine Trustees for Said Borough the following Members met & took the oath of office: Fredk. Graeter, Chas. Smith, E. Stout, J. D. Hay, Jno. Ewing, E. McNamee, M. Barnett & O. Reiley.

Fredk. Graeter was then elected Chairman Pro-Tem.—& J. D. Hay Clerk pro Tem—

Ordered That Chs. Smith be a Committee to direct the former Clerk of the Board, to deposit the Books & papers belonging to the Corporation, with the Board at the next meeting.—

Ordered That Owen Reiley be a Committee to contract for the printing of the Act Incorporating this Borough & the supplement thereto—

Ordered that John Ewing be a Committee to enquire for a suitable place for the Board to hold their Meetings & that he report to the next Meeting of the Board—

Adjourned until Friday next at 2 p. m.

J. D. HAY Clk P. tem

F. GRAETER Chmn pro tempore

Vincennes 23rd Feby. 1816

This Board met agreeably to adjournment when present—
F. Graeter Chm. P. T., E. McNamee, C. Smith, J. Ewing, O.
Reiley, M. Barnett & J. D. Hay.

Ambrose Mallett appeared & took the oath of Office.

The Committee of C. Smith reported, that he had discharged
the duty to which he was appointed on the 15th Inst.

The Committee of Owen Reiley reported, that he had wated
upon the Printer but as the Number of Copies to be printed
was not named he was not enabled to make a Contract.

The Committee of John Ewing reported that he had attended
to his duties, that Peter Jones & M. Barnett had each offered the
use of a Room gratis, for the accommodation of the Board—and
that C. Graeter offered to furnish a Room for twenty-five cents
each meeting:—

Ordered that the Board hold its next meeting at the House
of M. Barnett—

Ordered that the Books & papers of the Board, now delivered
by the former Clerk, be received & kept by the Clerk P. tem.
of the Board.

Ordered that twenty copies of the Charter & suplement there-
to be printed—

Ordered that a Committee be appointed to examine the Min-
utes & papers of the former Board & report thereon & that J.
Ewing & E. McNamee be that Committee.

Ordered, That C. Smith, O. Reiley & E. McNamee be a Com-
mittee to inquire into the legal Qualifications of the Members
of this Board—

Adjourned until Wednesday week at 2 P. M.

J. D. HAY Clk. P. tem.

F. GRAETER Chm. p. t.

Vincennes April 22nd 1816.

The Board met agreeably to public notice set up When Pres-
ent—E. Stout, E. McNamee, J. Ewing, M. Barnett & J. D. Hay.

It was moved & seconded that E. Stout should take the Chair
which being carried, was complied with—

John Ewing of the Committee to examine the Minutes &
papers of the former Board—

Reported in part as follows

Bye Laws for the guidance and government of the Trustees of the Borough of Vincennes—

First, The Chairman shall call to order at the hour to which the Board may have adjourned the preceeding meeting or within half an hour after and if a majority appear, the journal of the last meeting shall be read—

Second, The Chairman shall appoint all committees subject only to addition by motion of any member, when seconded—

Third, Questions, after debate shall be put by the Chairman in the following words, to wit. "All you who are of opinion &c say aye, all of the contrary opinion say no"—

Fourth, When a division be called for those in the affirmative will first rise, and afterwards those in the negative, after which the Chairman will state the decision—

Fifth, When any member is about to speak or deliver any matter to the Board, he shall rise and respectfully address Mr. Chairman—

Sixth, When two or more members rise at once, the Chair shall decide who is to proceed—

Seventh, No member shall speak more than twice to the same question or on the same subject during one sitting unless it be avowedly to explain what he may have said—

Eighth. No member shall vote on any question in the decision of which he is particularly interested but except in such cases, all members shall vote if not excused by the Chair.

Ninth. When a motion be made and seconded, it shall be stated or read by the Chair and is then deemed in possession of the Board, but may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before decision.

Tenth. When a question is under debate no motion shall be received except to amend or adjourn.

Eleventh, Any member may require a division of the question before the Board when its sense will clearly admit of it.

Twelfth. When any two members shall require the yeas & nays, the votes shall be entered on the minutes & the members names called alphabetically.

Thirteenth. Every motion must be reduced to writing if the Chairman or any member of the Board require it——

Fourteenth. If any member in speaking or otherwise transgress these rules, the Chairman shall or any Trustee may call him to order, when he shall immediately sit down until permitted to explain, and if in the opinion of the Chair the offence be flagrant he shall be subject to censure and to fine, two thirds of the members concurring.

15. No member shall name another who is present in debate.

16. For non attendance at special or stated meetings after due notice, it shall be at the discretion of the Board, after hearing the member in excuse to exact a fine not exceeding two dollars nor less than fifty Cents——

17. Every motion offered, may by vote, be laid over until the next succeeding meeting after its presentment.

18. The Citizens who may visit the Chamber occupied by the Trustees while in session, must not be permitted to speak or in any respect interfere with the members or the business with which they may be occupied——

19. No communication shall be received by the Board from any Citizen or Citizens unless it be presented by a trustee in meeting.

20. Members are bound to attend to the duties assigned them when absent, after being notified thereof——

Ordered that the foregoing report be received & concurred in——

Ordered that Charles Smith & J. D. Hay be a Committee to obtain a Copy or Copies of former Surveys made of this town with all other information which they can obtain on the subject for the use of this Board——

Adjourned to meet at the Court House on Wednesday 1st May next at 3 O'Clock P. M..

J. D. HAY Clk P. tem.

E. STOUT Chm. P. tem.